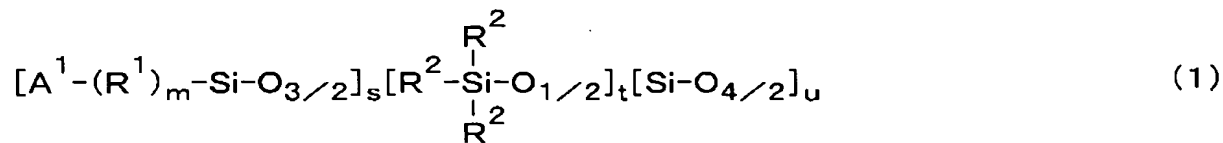


# ABSTRACT

The alkali-soluble silicon-containing polymer of the present invention is represented by the general formula (1) below and has a weight-average molecular weight in the range from 500 to 500,000:



(In the formula,  $A^1$  is a phenyl group having either a hydroxyl group or an alkoxy group;  $R^1$  is an alkylene group of 1-4 carbons;  $m$  is 0 or 1;  $R^2$  is an alkyl group of 1-4 carbons; each of  $s$  and  $u$  is a positive number;  $t$  is 0 or a positive number;  $0 \leq t/(s + u) \leq 1$ ; and  $0 < u/s \leq 5$ ).